

are all connected; that we are all tied to that song that the morning brings.

It's been difficult, to say the least, for those of us who loved him to come to grips with his passing. So many stories, so much fun. So many good times that we want to hold on to. But I believe God sometimes gives us people like Ronn, and takes them way to early, so that we remember more profoundly how they lived. So that we may take their best qualities and assimilate them into our lives. The real characteristic which I think we can take from Ronn, was that he just loved life in all its forms. His family, sports, work, music, and so much more. I can still see him dancing at concerts, bear hugging his people, and LOUDLY cheering on his favorite teams. Ronn loved it all and he did it with all of his heart.

Madam Speaker, it's our responsibility to take on Ronn's philosophy that we are all the eyes of the world. That we need to connect to that love Ronn embodied every day. We need to be excited about our lives and share our dreams with those around us. We need to love more, share more, care more. We need to ask ourselves, are we kind? We need to be that ripple even if the water is still.

So, we say fare thee well my brother, we love him more than words can say. Although he is not with us physically, he will forever be in our hearts. We here promise, his friends and family, that we will honor him and his amazing life, by being true to ourselves, compassionate to one another, and always, no matter what, enjoying the ride.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF TONY M. AUSTIN

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mr. Tony Austin who passed away on August 15. I join his family, friends, and loved ones in mourning his loss.

Tony was beloved by his community. He proudly served in the United States Army as

a Sergeant in the Korean war from 1950–1953. After returning he continued to serve his community as a Memphis police officer driving car #1 on Beale Street. He was affectionately known by his colleagues as Mr. Smiley.

In his free time, Mr. Austin enjoyed a round of golf, singing gospels, and playing the guitar. He was a father, grandfather, great-grandfather and a friend.

Mr. Austin was a fixture in his community and his legacy will be long remembered. I offer my most sincere condolences to all who had the opportunity to know and love him.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF THE THORNTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and sacrifice of the Thornton Fire Department in my district.

When COVID-19 vaccines became available, the city of Thornton jumped into action and tasked the Thornton Fire Department with administering vaccines to residents. Thornton Fire was uniquely qualified for this rollout as they had been providing mass COVID-19 testing during the pandemic.

As of this past June, Thornton Fire administered over 82,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. These efforts went above and beyond their call of duty and drew in Coloradans from all over the state.

In late-April, the Congressional Fire Services Institute awarded Thornton Fire their "Fire Service-Based EMS Award," a highly coveted award that recognizes the work of the department in testing and vaccinating our community members and implementing a monitoring program for COVID-symptomatic firefighters.

I thank Thornton Fire for their service, sacrifice, and unfailing commitment to all Coloradans.

CELEBRATING WASHINGTON FIRE COMPANY NO. 2

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Washington Fire Company No. 2 of Madison, Indiana on its 175th anniversary.

Established on January 22, 1846, the firehouse is one of the last remaining Greek Revival firehouses in the United States. Washington Fire Company No. 2 is the oldest active firehouse in the Hoosier state.

I congratulate Washington Fire Company No. 2 and thank them for 175 years of service.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MRS. FANNIE "CINDY" McCLAIN

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mrs. McClain who turns 100 years old on September 26, 2021. I congratulate her on a long and healthy life and decades of service to her community.

Mrs. McClain is a gifted seamstress. She is known for her ability to adapt any pattern and create something beautiful overnight. She was also an athlete with the Hernando Community Ladies Softball Team. She was a domestic worker and a seamstress at Minor France Dress Shop in Memphis before retiring.

Mrs. McClain was married to Mr. Cornelius Lloyd McClain and the mother of two sons, Alfred and Calvin. She is a lifelong member of Rising Sun Missionary Baptist Church in Hernando.

I am thrilled to wish Mrs. McClain a happy 100th birthday and offer my most sincere congratulations.